



1700 G Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20552

March 1, 2018

The Honorable Sherrod Brown  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Banking, Housing  
and Urban Affairs  
United States Senate  
534 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Maxine Waters  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Financial Services  
U.S. House of Representatives  
4340 Thomas P. O'Neill Jr.  
Federal Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20024

Dear Ranking Member Brown and Ranking Member Waters:

Thank you for your letter of February 16, 2018. The Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection (Bureau) appreciates your interest in the work of our Office of Fair Lending and Equal Opportunity (OFLEO), and shares your commitment to ensuring that the Bureau fulfills all applicable statutory requirements efficiently and effectively.

As you may know, I have been working to ensure that the Bureau's operations are conducted in a way that best enables us to fulfill all of the Bureau's statutory requirements while reducing redundancy and maximizing efficiency. Changes to the structure and operations of OFLEO are being implemented in furtherance of these priorities. The current organizational structure of OFLEO places primary emphasis on oversight and enforcement of fair lending laws. The result has been a focus on corrective measures, rather than promotion of fair lending compliance and education. In addition, maintaining supervision and enforcement functions and processes that are separate from the Offices of Enforcement, Supervision Policy, and Supervision Examinations has created unnecessary duplication.

The reorganization of OFLEO will transfer OFLEO's supervision and enforcement functions to the other offices charged with those functions, and elevate OFLEO's remaining functions to the Director's Office to become part of an Office of Equal Opportunity and Fairness with a focus on fair lending coordination, compliance, and education. The changes are designed to eliminate unnecessary duplication in the Bureau's supervision and enforcement functions, and allow OFLEO to promote fair lending compliance through education and outreach. These changes should improve the Bureau's operations and our interactions with consumers and industry, in fulfillment of our mission, and in full compliance with the Bureau's statutory mandate. The proposed reorganization will not hamper the Bureau's fair lending enforcement and supervisory activity.

Your letter asked a number of questions regarding how this reorganization will affect specific reporting relationships and the distribution of responsibilities within the Bureau. Specific details of the reorganization are still under review at this time, in consultation with Bureau stakeholders and the National Treasury Employees Union, and in accordance with the Bureau's collective bargaining agreement. While we do not expect that staff will experience changes in employment status, it is possible that some may experience changes in job responsibilities and duties. We are

working diligently to effect these changes while minimizing disruption to operations and employees. We are confident that these changes will not hinder the Bureau's ability to provide oversight and enforcement of fair lending laws.

Thank you for your interest in the Bureau's work. Should you have any further questions about this matter, please do not hesitate to have your staff contact Laura Hussain of the Bureau's Legal Division or Catherine Galicia in the Bureau's Office of Legislative Affairs. Ms. Hussain can be reached at (202) 435-7789 and Mrs. Galicia can be reached at (202) 435-9711.

Sincerely,



Mick Mulvaney  
Acting Director

cc: The Honorable Robert Menendez, U.S. Senator  
The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings, Member of Congress  
The Honorable Elizabeth Warren, U.S. Senator  
The Honorable Kirsten Gillibrand, U.S. Senator  
The Honorable Patty Murray, U.S. Senator  
The Honorable Richard Blumenthal, U.S. Senator  
The Honorable Chris Van Hollen, U.S. Senator  
The Honorable Brian Schatz, U.S. Senator  
The Honorable Mazie Hirono, U.S. Senator  
The Honorable Catherine Cortez Masto, U.S. Senator  
The Honorable Cory A. Booker, U.S. Senator  
The Honorable Edward J. Markey, U.S. Senator  
The Honorable Kamala D. Harris, U.S. Senator  
The Honorable Tammy Baldwin, U.S. Senator  
The Honorable Jeffrey A. Merkley, U.S. Senator  
The Honorable Jack Reed, U.S. Senator  
The Honorable Amy Klobuchar, U.S. Senator  
The Honorable Sheldon Whitehouse, U.S. Senator  
The Honorable Bernard Sanders, U.S. Senator  
The Honorable Ron Wyden, U.S. Senator  
The Honorable Dianne Feinstein, U.S. Senator  
The Honorable Tammy Duckworth, U.S. Senator  
The Honorable Michael Capuano, Member of Congress  
The Honorable Charlie Crist, Member of Congress  
The Honorable Vicente Gonzalez, Member of Congress  
The Honorable Raúl M. Grijalva, Member of Congress  
The Honorable Denny Heck, Member of Congress

The Honorable Emanuel Cleaver, II, Member of Congress  
The Honorable Keith Ellison, Member of Congress  
The Honorable Al Green, Member of Congress  
The Honorable Luis V. Gutiérrez, Member of Congress  
The Honorable Pramila Jayapal, Member of Congress  
The Honorable Marcy Kaptur, Member of Congress  
The Honorable Barbara Lee, Member of Congress  
The Honorable Stephen F. Lynch, Member of Congress  
The Honorable James P. McGovern, Member of Congress  
The Honorable Eleanor Holmes Norton, Member of Congress  
The Honorable Ro Khanna, Member of Congress  
The Honorable Alan Lowenthal, Member of Congress  
The Honorable Carolyn B. Maloney, Member of Congress  
The Honorable Gregory Meeks, Member of Congress  
The Honorable Mark Pocan, Member of Congress  
The Honorable Jamie Raskin, Member of Congress  
The Honorable Brad Sherman, Member of Congress  
The Honorable Mark Takano, Member of Congress  
The Honorable Tulsi Gabbard, Member of Congress  
The Honorable John Garamendi, Member of Congress  
The Honorable Jan Schakowsky, Member of Congress  
The Honorable Louise M. Slaughter, Member of Congress  
The Honorable Nydia M. Velázquez, Member of Congress  
The Honorable James A. Himes, Member of Congress